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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP

INTELLIGENCE REPORT

COUNTRY Austria (Russian Zone)

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SUBJECT Soviet Commission Inspecting USIVA

4 August 1947

This document is hereby designated CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the
Soviet Commission Inspecting USIVA, October 1973 from USIA.
Director of Central Intelligence to the
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1. The struggle between civilian and military factions for control in Soviet-seized Austrian factories is now coming to a head. A certain Utkin, reportedly one of the highest officials in the Soviet Ministry of Foreign Trade, has arrived in Vienna and has replaced Bobyr as Chief of the Light Industry Division of USIVA. Bobyr cabled to Moscow and was appointed General Commissar for Soviet concerns in Austria. Bobyr probably will exercise control over Major General Borisov. Bad relations had existed between Borisov and Bobyr at headquarters in Vienna.
2. With Utkin came numerous inspectors and officials to examine the books and business methods of Soviet firms. It is believed that these persons are being briefed on irregularities by civilian economists who are seeking to eliminate military control from USIVA.
3. The inspecting team is now investigating textile enterprises. The Soviet manager of the Hans Janisch textile firm in Kramskau has already been "deported" to Russia. Intensive investigation is going on in the Soviet warehouse on the Siemens-Schuckert property in Stadlau, where large quantities of textiles marked as the private property of high Soviet officers have been found. Certain Austrian dye works also are being looked into because the inspectors feel that these concerns charged too much for work executed on the Russians' behalf. They are now being forced to repay the amounts over-charged.
4. A number of Austrian manufacturers who have cooperated with the Soviets have now fled to western Austria, and it is believed that several high Soviet officers are planning to follow suit.

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